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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/743,839	12/24/2003	Damien (Yat Shun) Yu	VTX0318	1129

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EXAMINER

MURALIDAR, RICHARD V

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2838

DATE MAILED: 02/09/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/743,839

Applicant(s)

YU ET AL.

Examiner

Richard V. Muralidar

Art Unit

2838

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12/24/2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 17-20 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 24 December 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 06/02/2005.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

[b] The invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-5, and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102[b] as being anticipated by Small [US-6326766].

With respect to Claim 1, Small discloses an apparatus for reducing the potential for electric shock [Abstract lines 1-2; col. 4 lines 49-67 and col. 5 lines 1-13], comprising: a body [Fig. 13 battery charger case 200]; a battery drawer slidably mounted in the body [Fig. 13 rechargeable pack 100] and being operable to have an open state [when expelled from charger 200] and a closed state [when inserted into charger 200], the battery drawer having a cavity [Fig. 13 top half 154] and a plurality of contacts [Fig. 11 electrical contacts 104 and 105] arranged to receive at least one battery [Fig. 11 batteries 11A-E]; and an ejection mechanism [Fig. 17 catch mechanism 224, finger release 225, spring loaded contact strings 238A and spring loaded conductive strip portion 240A forms the left side of the mechanism, the same is repeated on the right side] operable to eject the battery drawer from the body and place the battery drawer in the open state, wherein when the battery drawer is in the open state the plurality of contacts are disengaged from any power source from within the body [col. 5 lines 13-16].

With respect to Claim 2, Small discloses that when the battery drawer is in the closed state the plurality of contacts are connected to the any power source from within the body [Fig 18; col. 5 lines 13-16].

With respect to Claim 3, Small discloses the power source comprises a battery charging circuit [Fig. 24; col. 6 lines 42-43].

With respect to Claim 4, Small discloses the ejection [Fig. 17 catch mechanism 224, finger release 225, spring loaded contact strings 238A and spring loaded conductive strip portion 240A forms the left side of the mechanism, the same is repeated on the right side] is operable to both eject the battery drawer from within the body and to establish electrical connection between the plurality of contacts and an electrical circuit within the body [via conductive strip portion 240A and 240B].

With respect to Claim 5, Small discloses a battery drawer cover [Fig. 11 top half 152].

With respect to Claim 9, Small discloses a portion of at least one of the plurality of contacts has a portion that extends beyond the battery drawer and functions as the ejection mechanism [the spring contacts 240A and B in Fig. 17 provide an outward bias on the contacts 104 and 105 of battery 100 in Fig. 2].

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103[a] which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

[a] A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the

invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 6-8 and 10-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103[a] as being unpatentable over Small [6326766] in view of Kfoury [6049192].

With respect to Claim 6, Small does not disclose that the biasing means is mounted on the battery drawer cover.

Kfoury discloses that biasing means of the ejection mechanism is mounted on the battery drawer cover [Figs. 7 and 8 battery door housing 104 with arm beams 472 and 474 form the drawer, and the front of 104 is the cover of the battery drawer; the biasing means are the springs 440 and 442].

Small and Kfoury are analogous battery chargers with openings to accept rechargeable batteries. At the time of the invention it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to add the biasing means to the battery drawer cover for the benefit of providing a means for holding the battery securely in place whilst charging, then releasing it when finished.

With respect to Claim 7, Small does not disclose that the spring/ biasing means is mounted on the battery drawer cover.

Kfoury discloses at least one spring/ biasing means of the ejection mechanism [Figs. 7 and 8 spring 440 and 442] is mounted on the battery drawer cover.

Small and Kfoury are analogous battery chargers with openings to accept rechargeable batteries. At the time of the invention it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to add the biasing means to the battery drawer cover for the

benefit of providing a means for holding the battery securely in place whilst charging, then releasing it when finished.

With respect to Claim 10, Small does not disclose the body of a cordless telephone base station.

Kfoury discloses the body is a body of a cordless telephone base station [Fig. 1].

Small and Kfoury are analogous battery chargers with openings to accept rechargeable batteries. At the time of the invention it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to add a combination ejector and electrical circuit maker to a cordless telephone base station for the benefit of having the ability to simultaneously charge a battery for the rechargeable phone, to do so in a safe manner in which the users could not contact the electrical circuitry when the battery was withdrawn, and to provide a means for holding the battery securely in place whilst charging, then releasing it when finished.

With respect to Claim 11, Small discloses a combination ejector and electrical circuit maker [Fig. 17 catch mechanism 224, finger release 225, spring loaded contact strings 238A and spring loaded conductive strip portion 240A forms the left side of the mechanism and makes contact with the battery; the same is repeated on the right side], wherein the combination ejector and electrical circuit maker establishes an electric circuit between the battery charging circuit [Fig. 24; col. 6 lines 42-43] and the at least one rechargeable battery [Fig. 1 battery 100] when the battery drawer is in a closed state, operates to eject the battery drawer from the body, and electrically opens the electric circuit between the battery charging circuit and the at least one rechargeable

battery when the battery drawer is in an open state [once the battery is ejected by depressing finger release 225, the battery is forced out by the spring contacts 240A and B in Fig. 17]. Small does not disclose a cordless telephone apparatus having a stand-by battery recharging system.

Kfoury discloses a cordless telephone apparatus having a stand-by battery recharging system [Fig. 1], comprising: a base station having a body [Fig. 1 main housing 103]; a battery charging circuit disposed in the body [Fig 4 printed circuit 404 is a charger]; a battery drawer slidably mounted in the body [Figs. 7 and 8 battery door housing 104 with arm beams 472 and 474 form the drawer], the battery drawer being configured to receive and hold at least one rechargeable battery [Fig. 2 battery 200].

Small and Kfoury are analogous battery chargers that can accept a battery into a housing for charge. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the battery drawer with a combination ejector and electrical circuit maker to charge a battery for the rechargeable phone, to do so in a safe manner in which the users could not contact the electrical circuitry when the battery was withdrawn, and to provide a means for holding the battery securely in place whilst charging, then releasing it when finished.

With respect to Claims 12-14, Small discloses a battery drawer cover [Fig. 11 top half 152] and at least one spring [Fig. 14 spring 233, Fig. 17 spring 256]. Also see Kfoury springs Figs. 7 and 8 springs 440 and 442. Small does not disclose that the combination ejector and electrical circuit maker is mounted on the battery drawer cover.

Kfoury discloses at least a substantial portion of the combination ejector and electrical circuit maker is mounted on the battery drawer cover [Figs. 7 and 8 springs 440 and 442 with arm beams 472 and 474 and contact block 420].

Small and Kfoury are analogous battery chargers that can accept a battery into a housing for charge. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the battery drawer with a combination ejector and electrical circuit maker to charge a battery for the rechargeable phone, to do so in a safe manner in which the users could not contact the electrical circuitry when the battery was withdrawn, and to provide a means for holding the battery securely in place whilst charging, then releasing it when finished.

With respect to Claim 15, Small discloses a substantial portion of the combination ejector and electrical circuit maker. Small does not disclose it is mounted on a battery drawer.

Kfoury discloses a battery drawer, in conjunction with a telephone charger base [Fig. 1].

Small and Kfoury are analogous battery chargers that can accept a battery into a housing for charge. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the battery drawer with a combination ejector and electrical circuit maker to charge a battery for the rechargeable phone, to do so in a safe manner in which the users could not contact the electrical circuitry when the battery was withdrawn, and to provide a means for holding the battery securely in place whilst charging, then releasing it when finished.

With respect to Claim 16, Small discloses the combination ejector and electrical circuit maker comprises an electrically conductive contact folded in such a way as to maintain the at least one battery within the battery drawer and to bias the battery drawer toward an exterior of the body [Fig. 17 spring loaded strips 240A and B are folded in this manner and holds the battery tightly in placed when the battery is engaged, then pushes the battery out when the finger releases 225 and 226 are depressed]. Small does not disclose the ejector is mounted on a battery drawer.

Kfoury discloses a battery drawer, in conjunction with a telephone charger base [Fig. 1].

Small and Kfoury are analogous battery chargers that can accept a battery into a housing for charge. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the battery drawer with a combination ejector and electrical circuit maker to charge a battery for the rechargeable phone, to do so in a safe manner in which the users could not contact the electrical circuitry when the battery was withdrawn, and to provide a means for holding the battery securely in place whilst charging, then releasing it when finished.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 17-20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: Claims 17-20 are allowable over the art of record because the prior art does not

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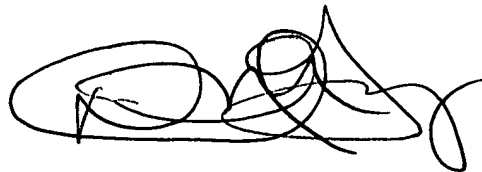
disclose a battery charger with a slidably mounted battery drawer for charging a secondary battery; with the battery drawer's cover itself containing the combined ejection mechanism/contact making electrical circuit as described; This ejection mechanism built into the drawer's cover (versus the battery charger housing) is not anticipated or rendered obvious by the prior art of record. The prior art does describe numerous secondary charging pockets such as described in Herrmann [6356054, Fig. 1] as well as various ejection schemes as the ones disclosed by Wierzbicki et al [6014009], but none of them contain all of the claim limitations of claims 17-20 as described above.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Richard V. Muralidar whose telephone number is 571-272-8933. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Gray can be reached on Monday to Friday 8-5. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Gray', with a stylized, cursive flourish extending to the right.

RVM
02/06/2006

David Gray
Primary Examiner